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NOVA SCOTIA, 1893.

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NOVA SCOTIA.

The average American considers when he reaches the State of Maine that it is not worth while going any further. That beyond this point the smiles of nature must be few indeed, that rocks must abound, and the region of eternal snow and ice be close at hand.

So general is this opinion that the warmest admirers of Nova Scotia are our cousins from over the border, who find that as they go north they are in a land growing fairer and more genial; and year by year they come in greater numbers to enjoy the summer, warm but not hot, to fish and shoot, to idle away a pleasant holiday, to extend their business connection, or to work gold mines.

As a resort for the summer tourist, the future of the Province is now assured. The facilities of access by Yarmouth, St. John or Halifax, by land and by sea, are now so improved that the journey from Boston or New York has become an affair of hours. The western section of Nova Scotia is traversed by a railway passing the rugged shores of the Atlantic, the Valley of Annapolis, and the Basin of Minas; a district thronged with the histories of the early combats of the French and English, the extirpation of the French, and the re-settlement by the New England and British Pioneers; and now flourishing as an immense orchard and farming valley, the mountain shore of the Bay of Fundy tempering the cold winds and prolonging

the summer until the right period is reached for the perfect ripening of the fruit.

The Northern districts of the Province abound in scenery interesting and ever varying in character, from broad well-tilled farms to frowning wood-clad hills, and every where visible, now close at hand and then in the distance, the waters of the St. Lawrence.

Crossing the Strait of Canso into the Island of Cape Breton, land and water are veritably wedded.

This Island surrounds, fast locked, a great salt water lake, salter that the ocean, stretching a dozen arms into the land, encircling hundreds of islands, and retreating from sight in a myriad of turns. Here many a tourist rests, enjoying a climate unsurpassed in the Continent; here the gales of the Atlantic, but a few miles distant, are not felt; the sea mists melt before the warm sun and the gentle breeze.

All over the province are excellent trout and salmon rivers, free to all, except in a few cases, where restriction, readily withdrawn, ensures good sport. In the fall, snipe, woodcock, and grouse abound, and the more ambitious sportsman has no difficulty in securing a moose, caribou, or bear, in the Cape Breton mountains, or in the unsettled districts of Nova Scotia.

As a farming country, Nova Scotia is famed for the regularity of the seasons, and seldom does a crop fail. The yields of the field, those of the Northern temperate zone, are good in quality, and would be larger in amount were the principles of farming more generally understood.

Next to the farming interest comes lumber, fish, and the mines. In

every one of these industries there is an opening for capital and enterprise. There are water powers running idle, to turn the wheels of a thousand mills, there is room for a dozen Gloucesters, with a dozen fleets on the neighboring banks, with attendant steamers, improved methods of drying; and the trade of the West Indies and the Mediterranean open to them.

In the mines, a slow development has served one useful purpose, the fact having been well settled that the mineral resources are so valuable that their development will become immense when the ball is once set rolling.

The coal fields scattered over the Province close to tide water, show their destiny to be called sea borne, and before many years will compete with English coal in Europe, all over the Atlantic, and the nearer portion of the United States. When to this is added the varied and wide spread beds of iron ore lying close to the coal fields, and to tide water, it is evident that the combination of these will shortly furnish cheap pig, etc., for half a continent.

Another resource, more fascinating than the prosaic iron ore and dusty coal, may be mentioned. Along the Atlantic coast there stretches a broad band of ancient rocks, broken and seamed by igneous intrusions. Everywhere in this district are veins of gold-bearing quartz, and seldom has the gold miner the good fortune to woo chance under more favourable conditions of climate, and facilities for supplies, etc. The veins have already yielded large amounts of gold, and steady returns are secured from the low grade deposits. There are undoubtedly large tracts of auriferous ground not yet prospected or taken up, and as yet the alluvial grounds are untouched

From these brief glances over the Province it will be evident that it offers unusual inducements to the apple grower, wood worker, the miner and manufacturer, and the fisherman of the ocean. The people of the province have lived their easy lives in a country healthy and readily yielding substance; but they have not yet fully awakened to its capabilities as a source of supply of food and manufactures to the surrounding territories. Progress has already been made in this direction, but the tide must flow more full and rapid.